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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A strainer comprising:
 - an elongated conduit;
 - a filter housing extending from said conduit in angular relationship to a longitudinal axis of said conduit;
 - a filter contained in said filter housing; and
 - a drain valve provided on said filter housing.
2. The strainer of claim 1 wherein said filter is removably contained in said filter housing.
3. The strainer of claim 1 wherein said filter housing and said filter have a substantially conical configuration.
4. The strainer of claim 3 wherein said filter is removably contained in said filter housing.

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5. The strainer of claim 2 further comprising a cap opening provided in said conduit for removing and replacing said filter in said filter housing and a cap engaging said conduit for reversibly closing said cap opening.

6. The strainer of claim 5 wherein said filter housing and said filter have a substantially conical configuration.

7. The strainer of claim 1 further comprising a pair of end flanges provided at respective ends of said conduit.

8. The strainer of claim 7 wherein said filter housing and said filter have a substantially conical configuration, wherein said filter is removably contained in said filter housing and further comprising a cap opening provided in said conduit for removing and replacing said filter in said filter housing and a cap engaging said conduit for reversibly closing said cap opening.

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9. A wet scrubber comprising:

a chamber;

a fluid drain line provided in fluid communication with
said chamber;

an elongated conduit having a first end provided in fluid
communication with said fluid drain line and a second end spaced
from said first end;

a fluid return line provided in fluid communication with
said second end of said conduit;

a filter housing extending from said conduit in angular
relationship to a longitudinal axis of said conduit;

a filter provided in said filter housing; and

a drain valve provided on said filter housing.

10. The wet scrubber of claim 9 wherein said filter is
removably contained in said filter housing.

11. The wet scrubber of claim 10 further comprising a cap
opening provided in said conduit for removing and replacing said
filter in said filter housing and a cap removably engaging said
conduit for reversibly closing said cap opening.

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12. The wet scrubber of claim 11 wherein said filter housing and said filter have a substantially conical configuration.

13. The wet scrubber of claim 9 further comprising a first pressure monitor provided in said fluid drain line for measuring a first fluid pressure, a second pressure monitor provided in said fluid return line for measuring a second fluid pressure and a controller connected to said first pressure monitor, said second pressure monitor and said drain valve for operating said drain valve when said first fluid pressure measured by said first pressure monitor exceeds said second fluid pressure measured by said second pressure monitor by a predetermined value.

14. The wet scrubber of claim 13 wherein said predetermined value is at least about 5 psi.

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15. A cooling system comprising:

- a cooling tower;
- a water drain line provided in fluid communication with said cooling tower;
- an elongated conduit having a first end provided in fluid communication with said water drain line and a second end spaced from said first end;
- a water return line provided in fluid communication with said second end of said conduit;
- a filter housing extending from said conduit in angular relationship to a longitudinal axis of said conduit;
- a filter provided in said filter housing; and
- a drain valve provided on said filter housing.

16. The cooling system of claim 15 wherein said filter is removably contained in said filter housing.

17. The cooling system of claim 16 further comprising a cap opening provided in said conduit for removing and replacing said filter in said filter housing and a cap removably engaging said conduit for reversibly closing said cap opening.

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18. The cooling system of claim 17 wherein said filter housing and said filter have a substantially conical configuration.

19. The cooling system of claim 15 further comprising a first pressure monitor provided in said water drain line for measuring a first water pressure, a second pressure monitor provided in said water return line for measuring a second water pressure and a controller connected to said first pressure monitor, said second pressure monitor and said drain valve for operating said drain valve when said first water pressure measured by said first pressure monitor exceeds said second water pressure measured by said second pressure monitor by a predetermined value.

20. The cooling system of claim 19 wherein said predetermined value is at least about 5 psi.